

REMARKS

Claims 1-11 are currently pending, wherein claims 1-7 have been amended and new claims 8-11 have been added. Applicant respectfully requests favorable reconsideration in view of the remarks presented herein below.

At the outset, Applicant notes that the amendments to claims 1-7 were merely to correct typographical and/or translation errors and to provide structural language rather than means plus language.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102

In paragraph 4 of the Office Action (“Action”), the Examiner rejects claims 1 and 2 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,148,090 to Narioka (“Narioka”). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

In order to support a rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102, the cited reference must teach each and every claimed element. In the present case, claims 1 and 2 are not anticipated by Narioka because Narioka fails to disclose each and every claimed element as discussed below.

Independent claim 1 defines a navigation system. The system includes, *inter alia*, a communication unit that receives information on a specific point via a predetermined communication line, a display control unit that displays an image containing information on the specific point received by the communication unit on a display, a character data extracting unit that extracts a character string including specific information on the specific point from among images displayed on the display, and a route searching unit that searches routes based on position information on the specific point received by the communication unit, and the specific information extracted by the character data extracting unit.

Narioka discloses an apparatus and method for providing map information in image form. The method includes extracting crossing information from a map, generating images regarding points near the extracted crossings, and displaying the generated images near the crossings in a fixed sequence. However, Narioka fails to disclose a character data extracting unit that extracts a character string including specific information on the specific point from among images displayed on a display.

In rejecting claim 1, the Examiner asserts that Narioka discloses a character data extracting unit as claimed in as much as Narioka discloses extracting crossing point information. This assertion is unfounded for the following reason.

Nowhere in Narioka is there any disclosure that the crossing point information is extracted in the form of character strings extracted from displayed images. To the contrary, Narioka discloses that the map information, including the crossing information, is extracted or read from a map disk. (See column 3, lines 49-60 of Narioka). The mere fact that Narioka discloses extracting information is not equivalent to disclosing that character strings are extracted. Accordingly, independent claim 1 is patentable over Narioka because Narioka fails to disclose each and every claimed element.

Claim 2, which depends from independent claim 1, further defines that the communication unit receives information on the specific point from home pages on the Internet or e-mails. Accordingly, claim 2 is not only patentable over Narioka for those reasons presented above with regard to claim 1, but also because Narioka fails to disclose receiving information from home pages or e-mails as claimed.

In rejecting claim 2, the Examiner asserts that Narioka discloses receiving information from home pages or e-mails as claimed in as much as Narioka discloses an input/output port. To

support this assertion, the Examiner points to the article, "Geosystems' MapQuest Unveils the Most Customizable Driving Directions Available on the Web." This assertion is unfounded for the following reasons.

First, the mere fact that Narioka discloses an input/output port is not equivalent to disclosing that information regarding a specific point is received from a home page over the Internet or an e-mail. Therefore, claim 2 is patentable over Narioka because Narioka fails to disclose each and every claimed element.

Second, it is not clear from the Office Action what the relevance of the cited article is to the Examiner's rejection. The Examiner asserts that Narioka anticipates claim 2, but then cites what appears to be an unrelated article. Applicant is unable to verify the exact disclosure of the cited article because the URL cited by the Examiner does not provide a copy of the article, nor was a copy provided with the Action. Therefore, the relevance of the cited article is unclear. Accordingly, should the Examiner rely on this article in a future rejection or maintain the present rejection, Applicant respectfully requests that a copy of the cited article be provided to Applicant in order to provide Applicant with sufficient information with which to respond.

For at least those reasons presented above, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1 and 2 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b).

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103

In paragraph 5 of the Action, the Examiner rejects claims 3-5 and 7 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Narioka. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

In order to support a rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103, the Action must establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness. To establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness three criteria must be

met. First, there must be some motivation to modify/combine the cited reference(s). Second, there must be a reasonable expectation of success. Finally, the combination must teach each and every claimed element. In the present case, claims 3-5 and 7 are not rendered unpatentable over Narioka for at least the reason that Narioka fails to disclose each and every claimed element.

Claims 3-5 and 7 variously depend from independent claim 1. Therefore, claims 3-5 and 7 are patentable over Narioka because Narioka fails to disclose each and every claimed element as discussed above with respect to claim 1. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 3-5 and 7 under 35 U.S.C. §103.

In paragraph 6 of the Action, the Examiner rejects claim 6 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Narioka in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. US 2004/0036622 A1 to Dukach et al. ("Dukach"). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Claim 6 variously depends from independent claim 1. Therefore, claim 6 is patentable over Narioka for at least those reasons presented above with respect to claim 1. Dukach discloses a system for displaying messages on electronic displays, for example, mounted on vehicles. The system includes a GPS receiver so that a display's current geographical location can be sensed, and then used to select which messages are shown the display. However, Dukach fails to overcome the deficiencies of Narioka.

Since Narioka and Dukach both fail to disclose or suggest a navigation system that includes a character data extracting unit as claimed, the combination of these two references cannot possibly disclose or suggest said feature. Therefore, even if one skilled in the art were motivated to combine Narioka and Dukach, which Applicant does not concede, the combination would still fail to render claim 6 unpatentable because the combination fails to disclose each and

every claimed element. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claim 6 under 35 U.S.C. §103.

New claims 8-11 are patentable over the cited art for at least the reason that the cited art fails to disclose or suggest extracting a character string including detailed information regarding a specific point as claimed.

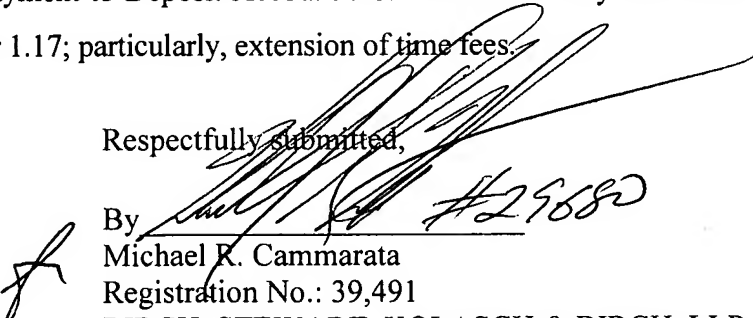
Conclusion

The application is in condition for allowance. Notice of same is earnestly solicited. Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Penny Caudle (Reg. No. 46,607) at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

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Respectfully submitted,

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